

# SENATE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

## INQUIRY INTO COMPLIANCE AUDITS ON MEDICARE BENEFITS

### Terms of Reference

The Senate has referred the following matter to the Community Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 15 May 2009 (extended till 10 June 2009):

Any Government proposal to implement the Government's announced 2008-09 Budget measure to increase compliance audits on Medicare benefits by increasing the audit powers to Medicare Australia to access the patient records supporting Medicare billing and to apply sanctions on providers.

The Government's draft legislation and the Privacy Impact Assessment have now been released and may be accessed from [this link](#).

Written submissions are invited and should be addressed to:

**The Secretary  
Senate Community Affairs Committee  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600**

**Submissions on the Privacy Impact Assessment are due by 29 May 2009.**

The Committee prefers to receive submissions electronically as an attached document - email: [community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au)

Submissions become Committee documents and are made public only after a decision by the Committee. Publication of submissions includes loading them onto the internet and their being available to other interested parties including the media. Persons making submissions must not release them without the approval of the Committee. Submissions are covered by parliamentary privilege but the unauthorised release of them is not protected.

Following consideration of submissions, the Committee will hold public hearings. The Committee will consider all submissions and may invite individuals and organisations to give evidence at the public hearings.

Information relating to Senate Committee inquiries, including notes to assist in the preparation of submissions for a Committee, can be located on the internet at [http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/wit\\_sub/index.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/wit_sub/index.htm)

For further details contact the Committee Secretary, phone: (02) 6277 3515, fax (02) 6277 5829 email: [community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au)